

## **Interagency Sustainable Practices Group Meeting September 28, 2005**

**Thank you for a productive discussion at the meeting and for your ongoing commitment to sustainability. We look forward to working with you on making our state agencies more sustainable.**

Thank you to all who forwarded to us presentations, documents, and other resources to share. These will be posted on the Sustainable Washington website under [Resources / Interagency Network](#).

This contains the NOTES from our meeting and the DOCUMENT called "[EO Key Provisions](#)" which you can use as a template for the [Progress Reports](#). Remember, the Template is to help you record what is required by the EOs, and to help us compile and present the data. We are continually asked what agencies are doing, what progress is being made, and what the issues are. We want to be able to present it as accurately as we can. PLEASE include report on the progress of everything you have in your PLAN.

The guidance document for 05-01 is listed on the website under [Resources / Preparing the Plan / Guidance Document](#).

### **Sustainability Roles & Responsibilities:**

Kathleen Drew is the new Sustainability Policy Advisor at OFM. She is the policy lead for sustainability in the Governor's Office, and will be the lead for sustainability planning policy and implementation of the sustainability executive orders.

Patricia Jatczak will continue to provide technical assistance to the sustainability planners in implementing their plans.

### **Introduction of the Group/Issues Discussion:**

We spent a bit of time of group introductions and discussion of issues and progress so that Kathleen and Patricia could get to know everyone better and the issues they face in moving forward with sustainable operations.

#### Some of the Issues we heard include:

- Difficulty collecting data
- Hard to get info on paper from printers
- Volunteer burn-out/lack of time/dwindling energy
- Lack of management support
- Lack of support from OFM - budget chart
- Difficulty sustaining the concept of sustainability

No ability to recoup the savings and re-invest  
Lots of agency reorganizations - need to start over  
Lack of consistency over what is expected in the plans - no data history  
No mention of reporting costs of implementing sustainable practices - lack of clear message about this  
Lack of standards for green products  
CTR goals are not incorporated into plans  
Energy reduction/cost challenges  
Budget and FTE cuts - sustainability another unfunded mandate

Some of the progress you mentioned: (sorry I didn't catch everything....)

Dedicated sustainability staff: **Fish and Wildlife**  
Green or LEED standard Facilities: **Health and DSHS (leased); Ecology (existing); Veteran's Affairs (new)**  
Composting/ Worm Bins: **Ft. Worden State Park and Ecology / Veteran's Affairs**  
Sustainability in GMAP and Strategic Planning: **Interagency Commission**  
Sustainability Curriculum: **School for the Deaf**  
Reduction in vehicle miles driven: **DHSH**

### **Discussion of Resources, Tools, and Ideas for Success:**

#### Resources:

- Share resources and tools with each other
- Add things to the Sustainable WA web
  - What Individuals Can Do lists and documents
  - Links to other agencies sustainability webs
  - DOC environmental game
  - Library of sustainability resources, films

#### Ideas for Meetings:

- Quarterly meetings good. Limit to 2 hours. Possibly have additional one-hour topic discussions for anyone, especially those who travel.
- Hold separate topic meetings (such as the one on biodiesel)
- Meetings can focus on info sharing / peer communication
- Agencies can do presentations on something they're working on
- Information on Persistent Toxics - how do we address them?
- Presentation on Managed Print Services: **Kelley (Printers), Suzette (DOH)**
  - Issues with air quality, energy use, etc.
- Energy efficiency measures - WSU Energy is a great resource
- Janitorial products and services presentations / discussion
- EPACT / Hybrid discussion - CTED - **Toni and Greg**
- Help with defining environmentally preferable products
  - Pam (DOC) and Kristi (WDFD)** interested in forming a group to discuss

- Auditors: Guidance on electronic signatures - when is paper required
- Archives: What do we need to keep, what form, etc.
- Data: **April (VA)** is interested in a small group to explore data issues

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAD SUGGESTIONS about the need for getting small groups together to explore issues, PLEASE feel free to use this email list to get something going. If you prefer, you can work with Patricia to get something going.

THANKS AGAIN!

Patricia and Kathleen

Kathleen Drew  
Executive Policy Advisor  
Office of Financial Management  
(360) 902-9818

~~~~~

***Patricia Jatczak***

*Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction Program*

*Dept. of Ecology*

*PHONE: (360)407-6358 FAX (360)407-6715*

*EMAIL: [pjat461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:pjat461@ecy.wa.gov)*

*Web: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/sustainability/index.htm>*